

Submitter: Matt Laas

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Special Session Committee On Transportation
Funding

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3991

I support this necessary funding bill. I recognize that no one in the legislature or the populace is excited about paying more taxes. However, we have to acknowledge that funding for ODOT has historically been less than adequate to the need. We are at a critical juncture where we must make difficult decisions now, or suffer the consequences of inaction and denial later. Far too often, leaders choose the easy path and "kick the can" down the road, expecting others to manage a crisis later. We see this occurring in the current federal administration and, make no mistake, the average American will pay a greater price in lives and livelihoods. We cannot continue to expect someone else to solve our problems. Oregonians need to come to grips with this reality and take responsibility for our transportation system for the present and future needs of our citizens and economy.